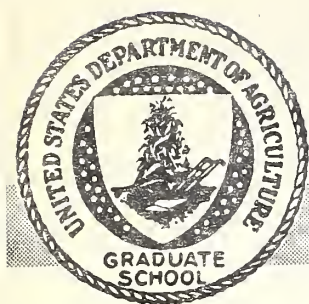


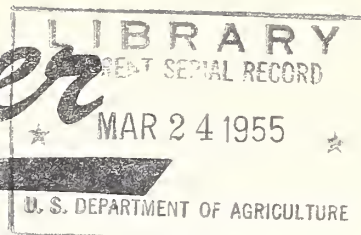
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Newsletter



GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

February 25, 1955

To the Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

GS is off to a good start in '55. Improvement in the morale of Federal workers is reflected in an enrollment that is 15 to 20 percent above that of spring '54.

Registrar Louise Sullivan reports between 2300 and 2400 students have registered for courses. The 155 going classes this semester include 15 at the National Institutes of Health, four at the Weather Bureau, and four at the Navy Hydrographic Office.

GS faculty luncheons will be resumed March 1 when President Wilson H. Elkins of Maryland University will be guest speaker. The time is 12 noon. The place, Room 6962, South Building, Agriculture. Make reservations with Mrs. Ruth Carlock of GS.

GS visitors in January were two former Directors -- P. V. Cardon, now Director-General of FAO with headquarters in Rome, and L. H. Rohrbaugh, now Provost of the University of Arkansas. Dr. Cardon stopped in Washington on his way back to Rome after a round-the-world tour that included stops in many countries where FAO technical assistance is in progress. Dr. Rohrbaugh was here for a meeting of the Council of Learned Societies.

Those of us who get the morning news from Claud Mahoney were pleased to hear him feature the GS spring program in his WTOP broadcast of January 27.

Among his listeners was Geoffrey Woodard, whose course -- Alkaloids, Glucosides, and Toxins of Biological Importance -- was given as an example of the varied subject matter offered by GS.

Mr. Mahoney also carried a feature giving more of the history of the school and some of today's services on his farm show over the CBS network, Saturday, January 29. The show was carried over WTOP on Sunday morning.

The question of acceptance of GS credits by other colleges -- a perennial one because we do not grant degrees -- came up in some recent correspondence with President Robert G. Sproul of the University of California. This is what he wrote to C. M. Ferguson, chairman of the General Administration Board:

"The University of California, like nearly all member universities of the Association of American Universities, has no established unit or course requirement for the Ph. D. degree, thus no question concerning the transfer of credits from the Department of Agriculture's Graduate School arises. In the case of the M. A. or M. S. degree, the University will accept as many as four units of graduate work done elsewhere towards the requirements for the degree. I know that on the Davis Campus of the University examinations in several cases have satisfied the faculty there that work to the four-unit amount should be accepted from your school."

Information on how different government agencies make, distribute, and use films will be given in a report now being prepared by Seerley Reid, chief of visual education services, HEW.

The report, which will be released as a GS publication, will cover material assembled in a 10 weeks seminar last autumn under the direction of Dr. Reid and R. L. Webster, director, Office of Information, USDA.

The participants -- selected on the basis of their work in visual education are representing 11 Federal agencies -- included: Ralph Anderson, National Park Service; Joseph F. Beattie, VA; Thomas E. Bower, Navy; Ernest R. Bryan, Navy; Mrs. Jean Christiansen, Navy; James H. Culver, Library of Congress; Ray B. Dame, Commerce; C. Graham Eddy, VA; Jack W. Evans, USIA; J. Walter Evans, Navy; Mark R. Ford, National Archives; James E. Gibson, Agriculture; Morris M. Goldberg, Defense; Gale C. Griswold, Foreign Operations Administration; Elliot Macklow, Interior.

Also taking part in the seminar were: Jack F. McAhon, Defense; James H. McCormick, Agriculture; Mrs. Frances McCoy, FOA; James A. Moses, Army; George C. Mullins, Bureau of the Budget; Paul J. Murdock, Army; Wilbert Pearson, USIA; Charles Pendyshok, Army; Ottis Peterson, Interior; Bernard Posner, VA; Ralph Price, USIA; Earle E. Roberts, HEW; Rex Gary Schmidt, Interior; Sid L. Schwartz, Agriculture; Walter K. Scott, Agriculture; Allen Sherman, Interior; Maurice Speer, Air Force; Mrs. Helen Stevens, Library of Congress; Carl R. Taylor, FOA; Herbert A. Thom, Commerce; Willard Webb, Library of Congress; Muriel Weins, Defense; Forest L. Williams, National Archives; and Earl H. Young, Commerce.

Assistant Director O. B. Conaway spoke at the closing exercises for students in New York University's special curriculum for Federal Personnel, January 1. The enrollment for fall term was 150 -- on a par with the two previous years.

Greatest progress in the social sciences -- of significance to agriculture -- has been made in economics, in the opinion of M. E. Benedict, professor of agricultural economics at the University of California.

Second speaker in the GS lecture series on Progress in Science, Dr. Benedict outlined the advances that have been made in agricultural economics over the past half century.

These have come in (1) collection of basic data, (2) analytical work, and (3) operating research. Dr. Benedict said the U. S. Department of Agriculture had made the greatest contribution in the first of these advances. The growing body of economic statistics has been constantly improved in quality from 1920 on and today it is the best of the world.

Touching on some of the difficulties in the social sciences as compared with the physical sciences, Dr. Benedict noted that social scientists are concerned primarily with people. The decision making powers of the people themselves must be taken into account. He said the investigator in social science can seldom expect his results will have lasting usefulness. High precision must be given up for close approximation that can be used widely and readily applied.

Dr. Benedict's paper is being mimeographed and copies may be obtained in the GS office.

It's not the cost but the upkeep -- trouble in getting to class, competing interests, and frequent field travel -- that discourages many USDA employees from enrolling in after-hours courses, to judge from the survey we recently made.

Of 439 employees interviewed, 205 listed "difficulty in making arrangements" as the principal reason for not enrolling in GS. Only 17 gave cost as an obstacle to enrollment.

The replies indicate that prospective students do not consider present tuition rates too high. They think the quality of instruction is satisfactory. And only a few -- 23 -- are discouraged from taking courses because GS does not grant degrees.

Assistant Director O. B. Conaway will go to Israel in late March to spend six months helping the Israeli government set up a public administration training program similar to that given here.

The assignment comes through an arrangement between GS and the United Nations. It reflects the growing interest of officials in other countries in the GS idea of helping government workers improve on the job in after-hours courses given by top-flight people on the job.

During his stay as consultant to the Israeli government, Dr. Conaway's headquarters will be in Jerusalem. Mrs. Conaway and their son will accompany him.

Among new GS instructors this semester are:

Richard F. Cook, deputy director for administration, USIA, who is teaching Principles and Techniques of Organization and Management Work, formerly given by David D. Levine and John D. Young.

Kenneth Soderland, Library of Congress, who teaches Library Cataloging.

Randall Esten, a former GS faculty member who has returned from the city after an absence of two years, teaches Review of Mathematics.

Richard G. Ray, assistant chief, photogeology unit, Geological Survey, who teaches Elementary Photogeology.

Charles Bates, deputy director, division of oceanography, Navy Hydrographic Office, who is teaching Geological Oceanography.

Lester F. Hubert, meteorologist with the U. S. Weather Bureau, who is teaching Tropical Meteorology (Hurricanes).

Carl Murr, secretary of the incentive awards committee, Civil Service Commission, who is teaching the non-credit course, Improving Reading Ability.

L. Kenneth Wright, director of administrative services, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, who is co-teacher with C. O. Henderson of Conference Methods.

Jerome Perlmutter, publications writer, Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture, who is teaching Introduction to Official Writing.

New Instructors at the GS Center at the National Institutes of Health are:

Wilbur W. Bolton Jr., budget officer, National Bureau of Standards, who is teaching Federal Budgetary Procedures.

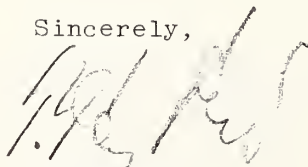
John H. Hughes, assistant scientist, NIH, who teaches Sensory Physiology.

Herman M. Kalckar, visiting scientist, National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases, teaches Biological Chemistry. Dr. Kalckar is from Copenhagen, Denmark.

Maxwell Kaufman, administrative officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, teaches Investments.

Alexis Shelokov, surgeon, NIH, who teaches Basic Scientific and Medical Russian.

Sincerely,



T. Roy Reid
Director